

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-17 (Canceled).

18. (New) A lawn mower comprising:

at least one drive wheel whose drive direction and speed are controlled by a pump, wherein the drive wheel can be driven in both forward and reverse directions;

a hand-actuated lever which actuates both a pump lock-out system and causes a braking force to be applied to the mower, wherein actuation of the lever by an operator causes both: a) braking force to be applied to the mower; and b) the pump lock-out system to be engaged so as to prevent the pump from being changed from a neutral state.

19. (New) The mower of claim 18, wherein when the lever is moved about an axis in order to engage the pump lock-out system, such moving of the lever causes at least one rod to move at least vertically upward.

20. (New) The mower of claim 18, wherein the lever is a parking brake lever.

21. (New) The mower of claim 18, wherein actuation of the lever by the operator causes the braking force to be applied to at least said wheel of the mower that is driven

via sand pump which becomes locked in a neutral state by the pump lock-out system upon actuation of the lever.

22. (New) The mower of claim 18, wherein the mower further comprises another drive wheel that is driven via another pump, and wherein actuation of the lever by the operator causes the pump lock-out system to be engaged with respect to both of the pumps so as to prevent both of the pumps from being changed from a neutral state.